

Application No.: 10/619,593
Amendments dated September 7, 2005
Response

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for treating human tissue having an upper portion and a lower portion, comprising the steps of:

- (a) using an Nd:YAG optical crystal, generating a pulse of laser light, said pulse having a first portion of a first duration and a first wavelength of light and a second portion of a second duration and a second wavelength of light;
- (b) directing said first portion of said pulse of laser light toward a target area for a first duration of time sufficient to raise the temperature of the upper portion of the human tissue to a first level and to raise the temperature of the lower portion of the human tissue to an extent sufficient to elicit a heating response that will accomplish hair reduction; and
- (c) determining the period of thermal relaxation of the human tissue following the exposure thereof to said first portion of said pulse of laser light and within said period, directing said second portion of said pulse of light

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toward said target area for a second duration of time to raise the upper portion of the human tissue from said first level to a second level sufficient to elicit a heating response that will accomplish skin rejuvenation.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) The method as defined in claim 1 in which said ~~optical crystal comprises a Nd:YAG crystal and in which said~~ first wavelength of light is approximately 1064nm and in which said second wavelength of laser light is approximately 1320 nm.

Claims 4 & 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method for treating human tissue having an upper dermis and the lower portion, comprising the steps of:

- (a) using a Ng:YAG crystal, generating a pulse of laser light, said pulse having a first portion of a first duration and a wavelength of approximately 1078 nm a second portion of a second duration and a wavelength of approximately 1340 nm;
- (b) directing the first portion of said pulse of laser light to a target area for a first duration of time sufficient to raise the temperature of the lower portion of the human tissue to an extent sufficient to elicit a heating response that will accomplish hair reduction; [and]

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- (c) following said first duration, directing the second portion of said pulse of laser light to said target area for a second duration of time sufficient to raise the temperature of the upper dermis to an extent sufficient to elicit a heating response that will rejuvenate the skin within said target area[.]; and
- (d) determining the period of relaxation of the human tissue following the exposure thereof to said first portion of said pulse of laser light and within said period, directing said second portion of said pulse of light toward said target area.

Claim 7 - 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method as defined in claim 6, further including the step of cooling the target area during said first and second durations of time.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An apparatus for use in treating the human skin comprising:

- (a) an Nd:YAG optical crystal having a first end and a second end;
- (b) a pumping light source for irradiating pumping light on said optical crystal;
- (c) a first high reflectivity mirror spaced-apart from said first end of said optical crystal;

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- (d) a shutter disposed between said first high reflectivity mirror and said optical crystal;
- (e) a second, high reflectivity mirror disposed between said shutter and said optical crystal;
- (f) a third high reflectivity mirror spaced-apart from said second, ~~rotatable~~ high reflectivity mirror and operably associated therewith;
- (g) a focusing lens spaced-apart from said second end of said optical crystal;
- (h) an output coupler disposed between said focusing lens and said second end of said optical crystal; and
- (i) a hand piece spaced-apart from and operably associated with said focusing lens.

Claim 12 & 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim ~~10~~ 11 further including an optical fiber disposed between said focusing lens and said hand piece.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim ~~10~~ 11 in which said hand piece includes cooling means for cooling the human skin.

Claim 16 -20 (canceled)

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Claim 21 (new): The method as defined in claim 1 in which the human tissue comprises human skin.